

Brian Carroccio

January 15, 2022

Montgomery County Council
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council Members:

My name is Brian Carroccio. I live in Rockville, and have been a Montgomery County resident for nearly my entire life. This is the first time in my 45 years that I have ever contacted political officials to raise a grievance. However, I strongly object to the proposed vaccine mandate that you plan to vote on Tuesday.

For starters, local businesses have already been decimated by your lockdowns, mask mandates, silly distancing protocols, and other cockamamie measures you have instituted since March 2020. Now, to merely operate a business in Montgomery County, owners might have to enforce a vaccine passport on your behalf. My guess is, as we have seen many businesses ignore the mask mandates of late, businesses will be very blasé about alienating their won customers by enforcing this passport rule. And do you seriously envision businesses diligently checking on passports in 3 months?

Of course, business owners in this county know what many of you seem to have trouble getting through your skulls: these vaccines do nothing to stop COVID transmission and even have a [brutal side-effect profile](#). Yes, they seem to have a very limited window of efficacy, but the fact we would force these vaccines on children, who have who have very little risk of COVID, in the absence of longitudinal studies, seems tyrannical.

I suppose it would be one thing if there was any information indicating that such a measure actually worked. However, New York City, which has had very strict passport and masking mandates has seen a [huge recent spike in COVID](#). Does the council really believe that if we merely masks harder, vax harder, or mandate harder, we can eradicate COVID? Did NYC not vax hard enough or mask hard enough? Maybe, they didn't distance hard enough?

Whatever the case, we know FOR A FACT such measures didn't work in NYC.

While I have frequented county restaurants, bars, gyms, bowling alleys and the like over the years, this passport going through will result in me taking my business elsewhere. I already cancelled my gym membership last week, I was stunned as there were about five people in the gym in early January, which is normally a peak time for fitness centers. The gym manager told me he had gotten no New Year's bump in memberships this year. Might that have something to do with the County's harsh mandates?

As for restaurants, my wife and I are upper middle-class income wise and the types to go out and drop \$100-125 on dinner somewhat regularly. I also often take my son bowling in the summer, and my daughter is a huge movie buff. Should your tyrannical measure pass, I will drive the extra distance and spend my discretionary dollars in Northern Virginia or Frederick County where I have friends that are living with greater freedom, and the local politicians have shown at least some degree of respect for my freedom and that of my children.

Also, we have other issues in this county that are getting pushed aside due to COVID-fixation. Crime is on the rise. Our schools are being overrun by insidious ideologies that the taxpayers never wanted. The Council's energies would be better focused in my opinion in these places rather than trying to stop a virus that really, can't be stopped. Furthermore, I see no endgame in this mandate.

I ask that you consider the non-effectiveness of previous COVID measures, and non-effectiveness of such measures in places like New York City. I also ask that you consider the well-being of children who we know have some risk of this vaccine, and the continued strain you will place on local businesses. For these reasons and others, the decision should be an easy vote of no for the vaccine passport.

Thank you,
Brian Carroccio